

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LILONG 00982 211229Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 DODE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 PM-03

SP-02 /029 W

-----010796 211235Z /64

P 211150Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2025

C O N F I D E N T I A L LILONGWE 0982

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PDIP, CVIS, MI, US

SUBJECT: CHIWAYA/ABERNATHY/BICKEL

REF: (A) STATE 153742 (B) LILONGWE 807 (C) LILONGWE 627

(D) STATE 116668

1. PERSEC KACHINGWE OF MINEXTAFF INFORMED US LATE JUNE 20 THAT THE GOM HAD DECIDED NOT TO APPROVE BICKEL'S ASSIGNMENT TO BLANTYRE. KACHINGWE TIED BICKEL MATTER IN WITH CHIWAYA CASE, WHICH PROBABLY MEANS THAT SINCE GOM HAD ALREADY DECIDED TO REJECT BICKEL (REF B), IT (OR PERHAPS ONLY GENERAL MATEWERE) DID NOT WANT TO APPEAR FOOLISH BY REVERSING PREVIOUSLY-MADE DECISION.

2. I TOLD KACHINGWE THAT I WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT BICKEL MATTER COULD NOT BE SEPARATED FROM CHIWAYA CASE AND THAT I HAD HOPED THAT THE WAY THE GOM HAD ATTEMPTED TO SOFTEN THE BLOW RESULTING FROM ABERNATHY'S DEPARTURE MEANT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER REPERCUSSIONS. KACHINGWE MUTTERED THAT WE SHOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH THE NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, BUT I POINTED OUT THAT OUR REQUEST FOR BICKEL'S ASSIGNMENT WAS MADE BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE (SENT APRIL 20, 1978).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LILONG 00982 211229Z

3. IT MAY BE IN ORDER FOR US NOW TO RECONSIDER EMBASSY'S REQUEST (REF C) THAT USG SHOULD INVITE MALAWI ARMY OFFICERS TO U.S. MILITARY STAFF SCHOOLS. THIS REQUEST WAS MADE ON BASIS OF SEVERAL INFORMAL APPROACHES TO LTC ABERNATHY BY GENERAL MATEWERE AND OTHER SENIOR ARMY OFFICERS. IT MAY WELL BE APPROPRIATE TO QUIETLY INFORM

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS THAT (A) WE HAD RECEIVED SUCH A REQUEST  
THROUGH NON-DIPLOMATIC CHANNEL WHICH GOM APPARENTLY  
FEELS IS NO LONGER APPROPRIATE, (B) INITIAL WASHINGTON  
RESPONSE TO OUR RECOMMENDATION FOR IMET TRAINING MET WITH  
RELATIVELY FAVORABLE RESPONSE (REF D) IN PRINCIPLE (EVEN THOUGH  
MALAWI HAS LOW PRIORITY FOR SUCH TRAINING), AND (C)  
IN VIEW OF BICKEL CASE, EMBASSY CAN NO LONGER SUPPORT  
MALAWI ARMY'S REQUEST FOR IMET TRAINING. WE HAVE LITTLE  
TO LOSE THROUGH THIS COURSE OF ACTION AND IT IS UNLIKELY  
TO PRODUCE FURTHER GOM RESPONSE. PLEASE ADVISE.  
SHEINBAUM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY TRAINING, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LILONG00982  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780258-0809  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** LILONGWE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780636/aaaabezy.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** a887b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 153742, 78 LILONGWE 807, 78 LILONGWE 627, 78 STATE 116668  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2267806  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CHIWAYA/ABERNATHY/BICKEL  
**TAGS:** MILI, PDIP, CVIS, MI, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a887b784-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014